

# Morori language

**Morori** (Marori, Moaraeri, Moraori, Morari) is a moribund Papuan language of the Kolopom branch of the Trans–New Guinea family. It is separated from the other Kolopom languages by the intrusive Marind family.<sup>[4]</sup> All speakers use Papuan Malay or Indonesian as L2, and many know Marind.<sup>[2]</sup>

A dialect extinct in 1997, Menge, is remembered from ceremonial use.

Marori is spoken in Kampung Wasur, which in 2010 had 413 people (98 families) total and 119 Marori people (52 Marori families).<sup>[1]</sup>

Contents

Phonology

Pronouns

Evolution

External Links

Further reading

References

## Phonology

Marori has 22 consonants and 6 vowels, which are:<sup>[1]</sup>

### Consonants

<sup>m</sup>b, <sup>n</sup>d, <sup>ɲ</sup>ɟ, <sup>ŋ</sup>ɡ, b, d, ɡ, p, t, k, m, n, ɲ, ϕ, s, h, r, l, w, j

### Vowels

i, e, æ, a, o, u

On the other hand, the majority of Trans-New Guinea languages usually have around 10–15 consonants.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Pronouns

Pronouns, but little else, connect it to TNG:

	<b>sg</b>	<b>pl</b>
<b>1</b>	<i>na</i>	<i>ni-ε</i>
<b>2</b>	<i>ka</i>	<i>ki-ε</i>
<b>3</b>	<i>ŋgafi</i>	<i>ŋgamdε</i>

Morori	
Marori	
Moraori	
Region	Kampung Wasur, Merauke Regency, Papua, Indonesia <sup>[1]</sup>
Ethnicity	250 (1998) <sup>[2]</sup>
Native speakers	50 (1998) <sup>[2]</sup>
Language family	<div>Trans–New Guinea<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Southwest Coast<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Kolopom<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Morori</b></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	mok
Glottolog	moro1289 ( <span>http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/moro1289</span> ) <sup>[3]</sup>



Map: The Morori language of New Guinea

- ☐ The Morori language (near the southern cape)
- ☐ Other Trans–New Guinea languages
- ☐ Other Papuan languages
- ☐ Austronesian languages
- ☐ Uninhabited

# Evolution

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Marori reflexes of proto-Trans-New Guinea (pTNG) etyma are:<sup>[5]</sup>

- *mam* 'breast' < \*amu
- *mam* 'mother' < \*am(a,i)
- *nemerŋk* 'louse' < \*niman
- *sa* 'sand' < \*sa(ŋg,k)asiŋ
- *ŋwar* 'bone' < \*kondaC

## External Links

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- ELAR Collection: The Endangered Papuan Languages of Merauke-Indonesia: ethnobiological and linguistic documentation (<https://elar.soas.ac.uk/Collection/MPI1032026>) deposited by I Wayan Arka

## Further reading

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## References

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  2. Morori (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/mok/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
  3. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Marori" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/moro1289>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
  4. New Guinea World, Kolopom (<https://sites.google.com/site/newguineaworld/families/trans-new-guinea/southwest-coast/kolopom>)
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- Ross, Malcolm (2005). "Pronouns as a preliminary diagnostic for grouping Papuan languages". In Andrew Pawley; Robert Attenborough; Robin Hide; Jack Golson (eds.). *Papuan pasts: cultural, linguistic and biological histories of Papuan-speaking peoples*. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics. pp. 15–66. ISBN 0858835622. OCLC 67292782 (<https://www.worldcat.org/oclc/67292782>).

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